

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 NEA-05 ISO-00 USIA-12 H-01 VO-01 SCA-01

L-03 INSE-00 /034 W  
----- 062562

R 251055Z APR 74  
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0884  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L COLOMBO 1141

E.O. 11652 GDS  
TAGS: OVIP, OEXC, CE  
SUBJ: FY-74 IV PROGRAM

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: POST NOMINATES STANLEY TILLEKERANTE, SPEAKER OF THE MANTIONAL STATE ASSEMBLY AND MP FOR KOTTE, FOR ONEDAY OBSERVATION/ CONSULTATION GRANT. THE SPEAKER RANKS THIRD IN THE GSL PRECEDENCE TABLE AND AS SUCH PER DIEM SHOULD BE DETERMINED FOR CATEGORY A IN ACCORDANCE STATE A-5625 OF JULY 2, 1973.

2. TILLEKERATNE WILL BE SPENDING ONE DAY IN SAN FRANCISCO ENROUTE TO WESTERN SAMOA FROM LONDON IN CONNECTION WITH GENERAL COUNCIL MEETINGS OF COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCATION (CPA) OF WHICH HE IS PRESIDENTM. TILLEKERATNE WILL BE ACCCOMPANIED BY SIR ARTHUR BOTTOMLY, TREASURE OF CPA, WHO IS SENIOR MEMBER OF BRITISH LABOR PARTY AND FORMER BRITISH MINISTER OF OVERSEAS DEVELO MENT.

3. TILLEKERATNE ZGNNSAN FRANCOSCO 8:04 P.M. MAY 8 VIA TWA 771 FROM LONDON AND ETD 8:08 P.M. MAY 9 VIA UAL-529 FOR WESTERN SAMOA VIA LOS ANGLES.

4. AMBASSADOR REQUESTS THAT DEPARTMENT AND SAN FRANCISCO RECEPTION CENTER EXTEND ALL APPROPRIATE CONFIDENTIAL

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COURTESIES INCLUDING HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS, AND MAKE EVERY

EFFORT ARRANGE SUITABLE ONEDA PROGRAM FOR SPEAKER WHO HAS NOT PREVIOUSLY VISITED U.S. EMBASSY REALIZES LIMITATIONS IMPOSED BY SHORT STAY, BUT SUGGESTS CALL ON MAYOR OR VISIT TO A COURT AND CALL ON A JUDGE, GOLDEN GATE PARK, BART AND ART COLONY AT SAUSALITO AS POSSIBILITIES. ALSO SUGGEST SRI LANKA'S HONORAY CONSUL IN SAN FRANCISCO, DAVID LONDON, BE TOLD OF TILLEKERANTE VISIT. BORN IN 1929, HE WAS PRACTICING LAWYER UNTIL ELECTION AS SPEAKER IN 1970. HE HAS BEEN MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT SINCE 1965. NO DIETARY RESTRICTIONS.

5. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL: TILLEKERATNE IS PROMINENT FIGURE HERE WHO HAS TAKEN COURAGEOUS STANDS AS SPEAKER TO RESIST ENCROACHEMENT ON POWERS OF LEGISLAURE AND UPHOLD JUDICIAL REVIEW. ALTHOUGH ACTIVE IN COMMUNIST PARTY DURING 1950'S AND EARLY 60'S HE JOINED PRIME MINISTER BANDARANAIKE'S SRI LANKA FREEDOM PARTY (SLFP) IN 1965 AND HAS MOVED STEADILY TOWARD CENTRIST POSITION SINCE THAT TIME. EMBASSY ENJOYS VERY GOOD RELATIONS WITH HIM AND HE MAY BECOME CENTRAL FIGURE IN RESISTING FUTURE ATTEMPTS BY LEFTISTS TO ERODE PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM. END CONFIDENTIAL.

6. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: EMBASSY REALIZES THAT IF BOTTOMLY IS TRAVELLONG WITH TILLEKERATNE THIS MIGHT CAUSE SOME EMBARRASSMENT. HOWEVER, WE HOPE DEPARTMENT CAN CHECK THIS WITH BRITISH EMBASSY AND CAN WORK OUT SOME SATISFACTORY SOLUTION.

7. WAIVER

ALREADY RECEIVED FOR TILLEKERATNE'S INELIGIBILITY UNDER SECTION 212(A)(28) OF INA.

8. WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION THAT SAN FRANCISCO PROGRAM FOR TILLEKERATNE HAS BEEN ARRANGED.  
VAN HOLLEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 APR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974COLOMB01141  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740098-0186  
**From:** COLOMBO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740415/aaaaanbr.tel  
**Line Count:** 96  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION CU  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 25 JUN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <25 JUN 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <26 MAR 2003 by BoyleJA>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FY-74 IV PROGRAM  
**TAGS:** OVIP, OEXC, CE, (TILLERKERANTE, STANLEY)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005